

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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2003

29 April 1954

MEMORANDUM TO: Chief of Project
FROM : Chief, Air Support
SUBJECT : Para-Cargo Dispatchers

1. The original plan for providing the PBSUCCESS air operations unit with cargo dispatchers was approved approximately 1 April. This plan envisaged training the cargo dispatchers at FJHOPEFUL during the period 1 May to 1 June.

2. Four former DTRABOLO guards were recruited by LINC Chief, PM and Chief, Air Support. The recruitment of these men was approved by Washington Headquarters. The following personnel were recruited:

[]

3. These four men were security briefed by [] and Mr. Robertson at the time they were recruited. The operational briefing which they received was very limited and they were only told that the job for which they were volunteering would consist of making flights over Communist-dominated territory and that they were to be used as "cargo kickers" in C-47 type aircraft. The men were directed to report to [] on or about 28 April for further briefing prior to start of training.

4. These men were informed that they would receive the following pay for their services:

- a. A continuation of their present contract salary from 28 March until the completion of the project to which they were assigned (completion date was estimated at 1 July).
- b. Upon successful completion of the project, they would receive a cash bonus in the amount of \$500 U.S. In event the missions were not completed as planned and only the

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training phase was completed, they would receive a cash bonus in the amount of [] U.S.

- c. In addition to a and b above, they would be granted 30 days' leave and their air transportation would be paid from FJHOPEFUL to their residence in the U.S. and return air transportation to FJHOPEFUL. Upon completion of their contract, air transportation would be paid to their permanent residence in the U.S.
- d. They would receive, during travel, standard rate per diem reimbursement.

5. No mention was made concerning underwriting of their insurance policies nor was any cash gratuity payments offered in event they were killed in action.

6. Since the date these men were hired the following question has been brought up by the Finance Office. These four men have been for a portion of the past 30 days on a terminal leave status and therefore have been receiving pay from the U. S. Government. Our contract with them would mean that they would be receiving double pay during the terminal leave period of time. The Finance Office considers such a payment illegal.

7. It is believed that these four men should be reapproached with a new offer to offset the loss of pay which would result by them not getting paid by LINCOLN during their terminal leave period. The new offer recommended would be as follows:

- a. A continuation of former contract with same pay and allowances.
- b. A cash bonus of [] upon completion of their assigned missions.
- c. A cash bonus of [] in lieu of the [] bonus in the event they completed their training phase and were not used operationally.
- d. A standard rate per diem allowance when undergoing training and during operations. (Estimated 1 May to 1 July)
- e. In addition to the above, they would be granted 30 days' leave and their air transportation would be paid from FJHOPEFUL to their residence in the U. S. and return

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transportation to FJHOPEFUL. Upon completion of their contract, air transportation would be paid to their permanent residence in the U. S.

- f. "Underwrite present insurance policies now in effect in the same manner prescribed for C.A.T. pilots. Further provide a cash gratuity settlement of \$10,000 paid to their beneficiaries in the event they were killed in action." (I believe we are morally obligated to assume responsibility concerning insurance guarantees in event these men are killed in action.)
- g. Start their employment with LINC upon completion of their accrued terminal leave.

8. It is requested that the Chief, PM and Chief, Support meet with Chief, Air Support to determine adequate remuneration to be paid these cargo dispatchers.

9. It is recommended that a written statement substantially as above be drawn up by Chief, Support and that this written statement be read to each of these contract employees.


Chief, Air Support

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